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Examiner: Elisca, P.

Attorney Docket.: 5181-15900

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madam:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of November 14, 2000.

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 26 are pending in the application.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection:

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tavallaei et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,864,653) in view of Splett et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,001,712). This